



The Triangle

Area 40 Newsletter

Volume 17, issue 5

Greetings from Our Delegate

April 25 – May 2, I attended the 59th General Service Conference. Thank you for the huge honor to serve as your Delegate! The experience has changed me and I don't even know how or how this experience will continue to change me. Thank you, Area 40, for your structure. You prepared me very well to serve Alcoholics Anonymous.

On Saturday, a very nice jacket arrived from Helena. This particular jacket was worn by Bob H. at the 42nd and 43rd Conferences. Mark S., wore it at the 44th and 45th Conference, and Eric at the 48th and 49th Conferences. Robbie declined the invitation to wear it at the 46th and 47th Conferences. The jacket has been safely returned to Gerry R., Area 40's Archivist. I have asked which articles of my clothing

are required for the archives. I hope it's not my favorite skirt.

As you all know, the Conference agenda was packed full with several challenging items. I have taken the agenda, the Advisory Actions, and the other considerations provided by the Conference Secretary and melded them together to offer a document showing the results of the agenda items. This document is available on the Area's website www.aa-montana.org. If you have questions, please email me at delegate@aa-montana.org or better yet, ask me at one of my reports.

I have been making my way around the Area giving my report and have them scheduled into October. The Conference was good, but being with you and telling you about the Conference is the

best.

Area 40's Assemblies much prepared me for the Conference process. There were a few instances where I felt we did it much better! Most of the committee recommendations were discussed twice. Votes would be cast, minority opinion heard, someone changes their vote, and then discussion would start all over again. A very democratic process but it was also a very lengthy process. We ended late on Thursday, started early on Friday, and ended very late on Friday night – actually Saturday morning. The preparation that Area 40 gave me usually left me at ease knowing where I stood on issues. And I thank you for that also!

In Love and Service,
Carole B., Area 40 Delegate
Panel 59

In Appreciation of the General Service Conference

At the 2009 Spring Assembly, we were given the opportunity to voice our opinions on the agenda items for the General Service Conference. Carole B., our delegate, was then able to carry the Area's conscience to the conference as our trusted servant. She is now in the process of reporting back to us, members of the groups in Area 40, the conscience of AA in the U.S. and Canada.

How did we get to where we are today? What was the impetus driving the formation of our General Service Conference (that many of us may take for granted)? The fascinating story of the evolution of the Alcoholics Anonymous service structure as we know it today is fondly recalled by Bill W. in the pages of *Alcoholics Anonymous Comes of Age*. All cited quotes that follow are taken

from this conference approved book.

"...[C]arrying the message, is the basic service that our fellowship gives; it is our principal aim and the main reason for our existence... We *must* carry A.A.'s message; otherwise we ourselves may fall into decay and those who have not yet been given the truth may die. This is why

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From your editor

Hi everyone! I hope you are enjoying your summer.

This issue includes some conference highlights, some great conference history by our Literature Chair, the July 1 financials, a Public Information article on anonymity, and some spiritual experience from our Archives chair. Close to my own heart is the Triangle Inventory on page 2.

I hope you have been, or will be, able to attend a Delegate Report in your district (or others: July 26-District 91; August 8-District 12; August 15-District 23; October 18-District 51).

The August Triangle will be a pre-assembly issue with the agenda for the Fall Assembly. I would appreciate articles by July 20. If your district or group submitted an agenda item, it would be great to hear from you! Or...perhaps the Delegate's Report got you thinking about how we can best serve the alcoholic who still suffers.

Thank you for allowing me to serve!

The Triangle Takes Its Inventory

I was fortunate to be able to attend the West Central Region AA Service Conference in March and got to attend a breakout session on newsletters. Newsletter editors from other areas in the region had a good discussion about distribution (mailing lists), finances, sources of articles, technology and mission.

The session raised some questions for me, and I thought an inventory would be a good way for the districts, groups, and individual members of Area 40 to voice their thoughts about the Triangle and its usefulness.

Please take a few minutes and complete the inventory and mail it to me: Area 40 Triangle, PO Box 542, Bozeman MT

59771. If you'd prefer, I can email you a copy. I have submitted an agenda item for the fall assembly to have the results of the inventory reviewed (I believe it will be assigned to the Grapevine/Policy and Admissions Committee) and recommendations made.

Thank you so much for your input! I really appreciate any comments that will help the Triangle serve Area 40 and its alcoholics.

Yours in love and service,

Sharon S., Area 40 Triangle Editor

Area 40 Triangle Inventory

1. What is the purpose of the Triangle? Is it meeting its purpose?
2. Are the Area 40 Policy & Procedures for the Triangle appropriate and effective? Should the Triangle Editor be a voting member of the Area 40 Committee?
3. Is the content of the Triangle useful and appropriate? Should material that is included in the minutes from the assembly be printed in the Triangle (i.e. DCM, Delegate, Secretary, Treasurer, Standing Committee Chairperson reports, etc.) or is it an unnecessary duplication?
4. What more can the Triangle do to serve the individuals, groups, and districts in the Area?
5. Is the media (printed copies through the mail and an anonymity protected version on the Area Web site) still appropriate (or should we use the Web site exclusively)?
6. How should the Triangle be financed? (The Area currently underwrites the cost of the newsletter although groups are encouraged to subscribe for \$10 per year; individuals who want to receive the Triangle must subscribe. Approximately 1/3 of the groups currently have paid subscriptions.)

Willingness, Honesty and Openmindedness

Hi! My name is Tim H. and I'm an alcoholic and Area 40 Archives Chair.

I feel compelled to try to put into words what it means for me to be able to take part in service at the Area level again. In the past I have attended assemblies as my Home Group's GSR, then as District 91's DCM. I stood for an Area chair position but was not elected. I left that assembly feeling that it was all right that I wouldn't be going back with a service position. I also left with the mindset that my passionate beliefs and opinions were also all right. I didn't think I would miss Lewistown or the spirited debate and having to listen to people who didn't see things my way.

As time passed, especially around April and September, I became aware that something was missing. Even more importantly, I became aware that my passionate beliefs and opinions, which I voiced from the microphone, were perhaps as much about my ego as they were about the issues themselves. I also began to realize, and ask myself, just how open a mind I

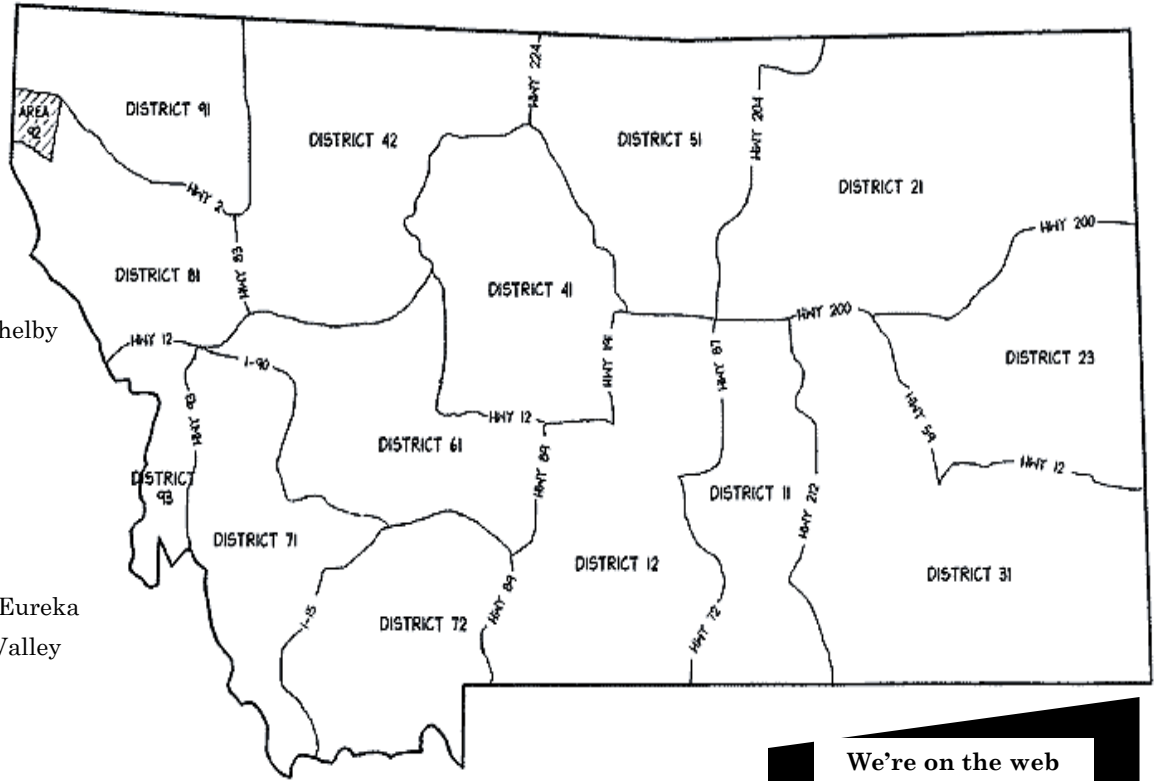
had when I listened to those with a different point of view.

I had forgotten what my sponsor has pointed out to me time and time again. "*Willingness, honesty and open mindedness are the essentials of recovery. But these are indispensable...* There is a principle which is a bar against all information, which is proof against all arguments, and which cannot fail to keep a man in everlasting ignorance—that principle is contempt prior to investigation." ([Alcoholics Anonymous](#), page 568) It is with the understanding of these essentials that I left this past Assembly, and it is with willingness, honesty and open-mindedness that I will attend the Fall Assembly. I am blessed in having been granted an opportunity to serve at the Area level. An opportunity that I didn't think I would miss until it was gone.

In service,

Tim H., Area Archives Chair

- District 11—Billings
- District 12—Laurel
- District 21—Wolf Point,
Glasgow
- District 23—Glendive
- District 31—Miles City
- District 41—Great Falls
- District 42—Cut Bank,
Choteau, Shelby
- District 51—Havre
- District 61—Helena
- District 71—Butte
- District 72—Bozeman
- District 81—Missoula
- District 91—Kalispell,
Whitefish, Eureka
- District 93—Bitterroot Valley



We're on the web
www.aa-montana.org

CALENDAR OF EVENTS

- PINE CREEK CAMPGROUND—Park County Intergroup Campout—July 10-11—Mary P.**
- VALIER—Lake Francis Roundup—July 24-26—Everett K.; Ed M.; Merv W.; Scott B.**
- EMERY BAY CAMPGROUND—Flathead Valley Intergroup Campout—August 7-8—Larry P.**
- FIREMAN'S POINT (South of Columbus)—Fireman's Point Campout—August 21-23—Nick D., Sandy A .**
- CAMP MARSHALL(WEST SHORE FLATHEAD LAKE)—Ray of Hope Camporee—September 4-6—Katrina**
- ST CLOUD, MN—West Central Regional Forum—September 11-13—Carole B.**
- LEWISTOWN—Fall Assembly—September 18-19—Terry S.**
- BIG SKY—20th Annual Woman to Woman Big Sky Retreat—September 25-27—Thora C.**
- HAVRE—Havre Mini Conference—September 25-27—Brigid F., BilliJo D.**
- BOZEMAN—Fall Roundup—October 2-4—Arch W.**
- LEWISTOWN—Spring Assembly—April 10-11., 2010—Terry S.**
- BILLINGS—Spring Roundup—May 14-16—Colby D.**
- SAN ANTONIO, TX—A.A.'s 75th Birthday Party—July 1-4, 2010—www.aa.org**
- LEWISTOWN—Fall Assembly—September 11-12, 2010—Terry S.**

If you would like your event listed here, please email the editor at Triangle@aa-montana.org or send it to PO Box 542, Bozeman, MT 59771

Just think! In a little less than 12 months, we will meet to celebrate AA.'s 75th Birthday at our International Convention in San Antonio! San Antonio is a vibrant, colorful city, filled with Southwest history. When we get there, we'll pack the Henry B. Gonzales Convention Center with handshakes, hugs, kisses, and lots of meetings, panels and workshops. And of course, we'll have those extraordinary Big Meetings in the Alamodome Stadium.

Festivities start on Thursday night with a Party in Hemisfair Park.....music underneath the Tower of the Americas.

These events affect not only the A.A. members in attendance...."You people have something special. You make me feel good....I have one thing to say to you guys! Don't go home".

Excerpts from Rick W.'s "2010 International Convention Presentation" April 2009

Area Officers, Committee Chairs, and DCM's 2009-10

POSITION	NAME	EMAIL	COMMITTEE MEM-
Delegate	Carole B.	delegate@aa-montana.org	
AreaCh/Alt D	Terry S.	chair@aa-montana.org	
Secretary	April A.	secretary@aa-montana.org	
Treasurer	Linda B.	treasurer@aa-montana.org	Del, Alt, DCM 72, DR 11
Archives	Tim H.	archives@aa-montana.org	DCMs-11, 71 DRs-23, 91
CPC	Virginia R.	cpc@aa-montana.org	DCMs-21, 51 DRs-42, 81
Corrections	Mary S.	corrections@aa-montana.org	DCMs-41,42
Grapevine	Richard K.	grapevine@aa-montana.org	DCMs-81, 91 DRs-61, 71
Literature	Lori F.	literature@aa-montana.org	DCMs-12, 31 DRs-91, 93
Public Info.	Tim M.	pi@aa-montana.org	DCMs-23, 93 DRs-12, 51
Treatment	Paula H.	treatment@aa-montana.org	DCM-61 DRs-21, 41, 71
Triangle Ed.	Sharon S.	triangle@aa-montana.org	
DCM 11	Colby D.	dcm11@aa-montana.org	Archives DR Finance
DCM 12	Nick D.	dcm12@aa-montana.org	Literature DR Public Info.
DCM 21	Rob P.	dcm21@aa-montana.org	CPC DR Treatment
DCM 23	Mike M.	dcm23@aa-montana.org	Public Info. DR Archives
DCM 31	Jim G.	dcm31@aa-montana.org	Literature DR Corrections
DCM 41	Lee T.	dcm41@aa-montana.org	Corrections DR Treatment
DCM 42	Gerry L.	dcm42@aa-montana.org	Corrections DR CPC
DCM 51	BilliJo D.	dcm51@aa-montana.org	CPC DR Public Info.
DCM 61	Tom D.	dcm61@aa-montana.org	Treatment DR Grapevine
DCM 71	Kevin M.	dcm71@aa-montana.org	Archives DR Grapevine
DCM 72	Jennifer W.	dcm72@aa-montana.org	Finance DR Corrections
DCM 81	Dan K.	dcm81@aa-montana.org	Grapevine DR CPC
DCM 91	Libbie L.	dcm91@aa-montana.org	Grapevine, DR Archives, DR Literature
DCM 93	Eric D.	dcm93@aa-montana.org	Public Info. DR Literature
Advisor	Andrew W.	advisor@aa-montana.org	
Archivist	Gerry R.	archivist@aa-montana.org	
Webmaster	Alex M.	webmaster@aa-montana.org	

Area 40 Financials

BUDGET VS ACTUAL BY LINE ITEM *			
	Jan 1 - Jun 30, 2009	YTD Budget	Annual Budget
Income			
Individual contribution	\$0.00	\$40.00	\$80.00
Group Contributions	\$13,298.68	\$13,541.94	\$26,939.00
District Contribution	\$162.41	\$150.81	\$300.00
Roundup Contribution	\$0.00	\$250.00	\$500.00
7th Tradition	\$1,214.77	\$750.00	\$1,500.00
Triangle Subscriptions	\$620.00	\$503.23	\$1,100.00
Other Income (recouped from)	\$160.10	\$325.00	\$475.00
Interest	\$0.58	\$22.62	\$45.00
Total Income	\$15,456.54	\$15,583.60	\$30,939.00
Expenses			
Travel Expenses	\$8,924.23	\$11,483.00	\$19,634.00
Rent	\$3,179.32	\$2,759.68	\$5,500.00
Literature Expenses	\$267.76	\$301.61	\$600.00
Photocopies / printing	\$1,531.31	\$1,605.90	\$2,875.00
Dues, registration, fees	\$37.00	\$0.00	
Postage	\$229.28	\$165.82	\$300.00
Supplies	\$435.73	\$235.35	\$460.00
Telephone	\$683.35	\$613.33	\$1,220.00
Miscellaneous expense	\$270.45	\$245.08	\$350.00
Total Expense	\$15,558.43	\$17,409.77	\$30,939.00
Net Income	(\$101.89)	(\$1,826.17)	\$0.00
Archivist Account Reserve	\$2,047.50		
Prudent Reserve	\$10,303.00		
Operating Reserve	\$10,315.28		
Total Cash on Deposit	\$22,665.78		

* See page 6 for budget vs actual information by committee.

Anonymity and Public Information

Since the purpose of Public Information (P.I.) in Alcoholics Anonymous means carrying the message of recovery to the still-suffering alcoholic by informing the general public about the A.A. program, the question arises, why would we do this if we are anonymous?

The P.I. workbook breaks up anonymity into three sections.

The Need

“In my belief, the entire future of our fellowship hangs upon this vital principle. If we continue to be filled with the spirit and practice of anonymity, no shoal or reef can wreck us. If we forget this principle, the lid to Pandora’s Box will be off and the spirits of Money,

Power, and Prestige will be loosed among us. Obsessed by these evil genii, we might well founder and break up. I devoutly believe this will never happen. No A.A. Principle merits more study and application than this one. I am positive that A.A.’s anonymity is the key to long-time survival.” (Alcoholics Anonymous Comes of Age, pages 131-132)

Bill went on to talk about the two sides of anonymity: the practical side which brought protection for the newcomer, respect of the world outside and security from those of us who would use A.A. for sick and selfish purposes; then a much larger side to anonymity, the

spiritual side. In the book Twelve Steps and Twelve Traditions (page 187) he states: “...anonymity is real humility at work. It is an all-pervading spiritual quality which today keynotes A.A. life everywhere. Moved by the spirit of anonymity, we try to give up our natural desires for personal distinction as A.A. members both among fellow alcoholics and before the general public. As we lay aside these very human aspirations, we believe that each of us takes part in the weaving of a protective mantle which covers our whole Society and under which we may grow and work in Unity.”

Personal Choice

“In practice then, the principle of anonymity seems to come down to this: with one very important exception, the question of how far each individual or group shall go in dropping anonymity is left strictly to the individual or group concerned. The exception is: that all groups or individuals, when writing or speaking for publication as members of Alcoholics Anonymous, feel bound never to disclose their true names. It is at this point of publication that we feel we should draw the line on anonymity.” (A.A. Tradition - How It Developed, page 41)

Anonymity Breaks

“Of course, no A.A. need be anonymous to family, friends, or neighbors... But before the general public - press, radio, films, television, and the like-the revelation of full names and pictures is the point of peril. This is the main escape hatch for the fearful destructive forces that still lie latent in us all. Here the lid can and must stay down.” (Best of the Grapevine, Volume 1, pages 279-280)

So with all this talk about the importance of anonymity why would we venture into public relations and how would we do it if we did? The first thing that should be stressed is that it is suggested that members taking part in P.I. work should have several years of continuous sobriety and be well versed in our traditions. Why would we trudge down this path? From the beginning of A.A. in 1935, its members

(Continued on page 6)

Delegate Report Highlights

Conference Highlights

- Approved Young People’s Video
- Approved utilizing workshops of the 2010 GSC to take the Conference’s inventory
- Approved a poster geared toward young people
- Amended the Treatment Conference Committee to include Special Needs/Accessibility

Quotes from the Conference

- You make me a better judge, husband, father, and son— Rogelio Flores, Class A Trustee
- I hope that we never step over a drunk to argue a Tradition—Paul C., General Service Trustee
- I think of where you are and where you came from, it humbles me—Herb Goodman, Class A Trustee
- When they said I would be rocketed into a 4th Dimension, I did not know my rocket would be the escalator from the lobby to the 4th floor—Delegate

And now about money

- For the twelve-month period ending December 31, 2008, A.A. World Services, Inc. realized a net loss of \$275,000
- Book prices are going up
- Grapevine subscriptions are going up to \$27.00 per year
- The conference approved a recommendation that the Trustees Finance Committee gather input from the Fellowship on the following for review by the 2010 Conference Committee on Finance: 1) If we continue to use literature profits to fund services, should there be a limit? 2) If there is a limit how do we continue to pay for services if there is a shortfall in contributions?
- GSO functional costs are \$157 per year per group
- Or....is it really about money?

How about a brainstorm?

- What if the Big Book were free?

(Anonymity continued from page 5)
 have recognized that word-of-mouth is not sufficient by itself to carry the program’s message of hope and recovery to the many people still suffering from alcoholism.

Our co-founder, Bill W., wrote: Public Information takes many forms—the simple sign outside a meeting place that says “A.A. meeting tonight”; listing in local phone directories; distribution of A.A. literature; and radio and television shows using sophisticated media techniques. Whatever the form, it comes down to “one drunk carrying the message to another drunk,” whether through personal contact or through the use of third parties and the media.

Tim M., Area 40 Public Information Chair

Area 40 Financials continued from page 5

Budget vs Actual by Committee		
	Jan 1 - Jun 30, 2009	Annual Budget
Expenses by Program/Committee		
Spring Assembly	\$4,463.63	\$5,000.00
Fall Assembly	\$0.00	\$4,750.00
Regional Service Conference	\$721.07	\$1,800.00
Regional Forum	\$636.90	\$1,800.00
Regional Trustee	\$0.00	\$750.00
Delegate Expenses	\$4,559.82	\$5,889.00
Area Chair	\$233.42	\$1,000.00
Archives Chair	\$2,190.00	\$3,850.00
Corrections Chair	\$0.00	\$250.00
CPC Chair	\$64.20	\$250.00
GrapeVine Chair	\$0.00	\$250.00
Literature Chair	\$267.76	\$850.00
Public Information Chair	\$659.22	\$1,450.00
Treatment Chair	\$37.45	\$250.00
Secretary	\$53.25	\$300.00
Treasurer	\$485.16	\$400.00
Website	\$0.00	\$150.00
Triangle	\$1,052.33	\$1,950.00
Area Workshops	\$127.92	\$0.00
Program Services - Other	\$15.00	\$0.00
Total Program/Committee Expense	\$15,567.13	\$30,939.00
% of year elapsed	50.00%	
% of actual to budget	50.32%	

Self Support

Time for a split?

Send Area contributions to:
 Area 40, Inc.
 PO BOX 21577
 BILLINGS MT 59104

Send GSO contributions to:
 GSO
 PO BOX 459
 GRAND CENTRAL STATION
 NEW YORK NY 10163

(Appreciation continued from page 1)

we so often say that *action* is the magic word. Action to carry A.A.'s message is therefore the heart of our Third Legacy of Service...Without its essential services, A.A. would soon become a formless, confused, and irresponsible anarchy." (pages 139-40)

Many people in the fellowship today are unaware of how our service structure came to be. "To those who do know the real story this is one of the most vital and exciting developments in all our history." (page 144)

In the two years after the publication of the Big Book (another incredible story itself) A.A. experienced a period of steady growth. Then in March of 1941 the national magazine *The Saturday Evening Post* published an article about Alcoholics Anonymous written by star feature writer, Jack Alexander. This resulted in a tremendous increase in pleas for help from across the nation. "Everywhere we were growing rapidly. In many ways 1941 can be reckoned as the most exciting year in our history. We paid little attention to the low-lying clouds on the horizon which would soon involve us in storms. A.A. was just entering its fearful and wonderful time of adolescence, a phase which was to last almost fifteen years." (page 192) The members of this fledgling movement soon realized that volunteer labor only and lack of funds would severely hamper their ability to carry the message to suffering alcoholics.

Meanwhile, the Alcoholic Foundation, formed in August of 1938 to give the movement an organizational framework (and also to encourage wealthy donors

to make tax-free contributions) was providing guidance to the existing groups from the New York headquarters. The Board of Trustees, made up of both alcoholics and non-alcoholics, and the Headquarters served as a clearinghouse for shared experience and information. As Bill remembered, "On all sides the membership of our society asked for the experience and guidance of the New York office in solving their problems. Things finally began to run so smoothly that the average A.A. member has taken our world service record for granted. Until recently, these Headquarters services were largely invisible to him. Nevertheless, this unseen activity has surely been responsible for much of our growth and unity." (page 198)

But Bill soon became concerned about the future leadership of A.A. He knew that he and Dr. Bob were the main links between the fellowship and the Board of Trustees who managed the world services. He also knew that he and his co-founder were not immortal. His fear was that with the inevitable death of the old-timers, any mistake made by the Trustees could cause an irreparable rift between Headquarters and the fellowship resulting in the complete loss of the services everyone had worked so hard to develop. "It was evident that here was a world-wide movement that had no direct access to its own principal service affairs. The Trustees had authority over our services; A.A. itself had no authority." (page 210)

Battling almost unanimous resistance from the Board of Trustees to a hand-picked advisory council or an elected conference, Bill was finally able to per-

suade them to give the conference plan a five year trial starting in 1951. It must be emphasized that without a great deal of help from two non-alcoholic board members, it is unlikely the conference idea would have succeeded, at least not at that time. Bill also secured the endorsement of Dr. Bob just prior to Bob's passing.

The General Service Conference made a difference to A.A. that was felt almost immediately. "This heartening state of affairs was reflected in our Trustees' meetings and in our daily work at Headquarters. The final outlines of A.A.'s structure of service could now be seen. Wonderful co-operation and effective work replaced the fear, indecision, and violent debate of earlier times...For the first time we seemed to fully understand what we were doing and where we were going." (pages 218-219)

This book shares an inspirational story, one of the underdog prevailing against what seemed to be impossible odds. I wonder if I would have had the fortitude to keep going in the face of the many tragedies and setbacks suffered by the A.A. pioneers during the early years of the movement. I fear I would have come up short, and that's why I try not to take the General Service Conference for granted today.

Alcoholics Anonymous Comes of Age is available in hardcover for \$8.50. I encourage you to order your copy today through your district or intergroup and get ready for an exciting journey through A.A.'s remarkable history.

Yours in service,

Lori F., Area 40 Literature Chair

Service Opportunity for Sober Women

Where: Riverside Youth Correctional Facility Boulder, MT

Who: Sober women with at least one year of continuous sobriety

When: Saturday 11 am - noon

How: For more information and a copy of the Riverside application contact **Teresa K. in Helena**

Acronyms Anonymous, etc.



EGO—Easing God Out

GIFT—God Is Forever There

STEPS—Solutions To Every Problem Sober

NUTS—Not Using The Steps

PAID—Pitiful And Incomprehensible Demoralization (no dues or fees, but we've paid!)

RELATIONSHIP—Real Exciting Love Affair Turns Into Outrageous Nightmare, Sobriety Hangs In Peril

PUSH—Pray Until Something Happens

GROUP—Helps us **GRO—UP**

ACTION—Any Change To Improve Our Nature

HOPE—Hearing Other People's Experience

Finding a relationship in A.A.: The odds are good...but the goods are odd.

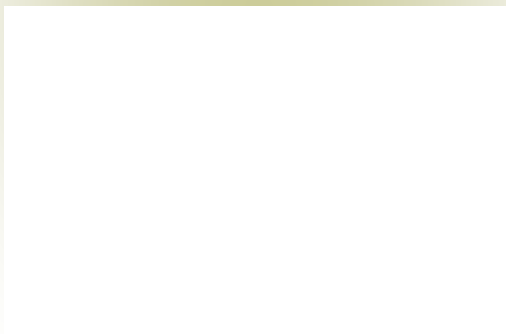
The monkey is off my back, but the circus is still in town!

Area 40 Triangle
PO Box 542
Bozeman MT 59771



CONFIDENTIAL

RETURN SERVICE REQUESTED



TRIANGLE SUBSCRIPTION FORM

If you would like a subscription for yourself, a friend or your group, please return this form.

The cost of the Triangle is \$10 per year.

SEND TO: AREA 40 TRIANGLE, PO BOX 542, BOZEMAN MT 59771

Make checks payable to Area 40.

Group Name _____

GSR/Contact Name _____

Address _____

City, State, Zip _____

Number of years _____
Number of subscriptions _____
<input type="checkbox"/> Group
<input type="checkbox"/> Individual

Subscription Information:

Groups are encouraged to be self-supporting for their Triangle subscription fee. Groups will receive the Triangle regardless of subscription status because of Past Actions of the Area Assembly.